

# Executive Office of Public Safety Newsletter, August 2006



The Executive Office of Public Safety (EOPS) is committed to keeping the people of Massachusetts informed about critical homeland security, emergency management, personal safety, and criminal justice issues. The EOPS newsletter is published monthly for the purpose of sharing current information on events, publications, and funding opportunities among public safety professionals.

## Funding Opportunities

### **Evaluation of Juvenile Drug Courts Program**

#### **Application Deadline: August 31, 2006**

“The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) seeks to inform the development and implementation of its juvenile drug court program by soliciting an independent evaluation of the strategies employed in juvenile drug courts and their impact on the behavior of participating youth. The evaluation’s findings should contribute to a more comprehensive assessment of juvenile drug courts and their role in assisting substance-abusing youth involved in the juvenile justice system.”

For more information: <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/funding/FundingList.asp>

### **Early Recognition and Treatment of Mental Illness**

#### **Application Deadline: September 1, 2006**

“The American Psychiatric Foundation is looking to fund innovative public education, information, and outreach initiatives that promote the early recognition and treatment of mental illness. The foundation is making up to \$750,000 in grant funds available over the course of three years (2005-2007) to fund programs that promote public awareness of mental illness, the effectiveness of treatment, and the importance of early intervention.”

For more information: [http://www.psychfoundation.org/call\\_for\\_proposals.cfm](http://www.psychfoundation.org/call_for_proposals.cfm)

### **Soros Justice Fellowship Program**

#### **Application Deadline: September 13, 2006.**

“The Soros Justice Fellowship Program is seeking proposals to implement innovative projects that address one or more of the criminal justice priorities of the Open Society Institute’s U.S. Justice Fund. Projects should seek to accomplish one or more of activities provided in the grant application. Examples of acceptable goals include: advance death penalty reform and abolition efforts; improve public defense services; combat racial profiling; encourage systemic reforms that create incentives for community-based solutions over parole and probation revocation; redirect criminal justice monies to strengthen community resources and responsibility for public safety and justice; advance sentencing and drug policy reform efforts; or empower communities most affected by mass incarceration to develop and advocate for alternative policies that address underlying social, racial, and economic inequality.”

For more information: [http://www.soros.org/initiatives/justice/news/justicefellows\\_20060530](http://www.soros.org/initiatives/justice/news/justicefellows_20060530)

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## **Data Resources Program 2006: Funding for the Analysis of Existing Data Application Deadline: September 14, 2006**

“The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) seeks proposals for secondary analysis to inform criminal justice policy and practice in the United States. Research proposals should either replicate original findings or, preferably, test new hypotheses with existing data from the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD). NIJ will give preference to research that asks compelling crime and justice questions over research that furthers statistical methods or technical refinement of data sets. Researchers interested in those latter categories should consider grants from the ASA/BJS Special Data Collections and Statistical Studies Research Program.”

For more information: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/SL000749.pdf>

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## **Research and Publications**

### **National Youth Gang Survey: 1999-2001**

This recently released Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention report analyzes results from the 1999, 2000, and 2001 National Youth Gang Surveys (including some preliminary results from the 2002 survey) in order to identify the presence and assess the extent of the youth gang problem in jurisdictions throughout the country. The annual survey is based on a nationally representative sample of law enforcement agencies serving larger cities, suburban counties, smaller cities, and rural counties. Access full text at: <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/publications/PubAbstract.asp?pubi=209392>

### **Improving Criminal History Records for Background Checks, 2005**

This Bureau of Justice Statistics report details the achievements of the National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP), its authorizing legislation, and program history. A summary of NCHIP funded criminal record improvement projects and examples of projects aimed at enhancing the involvement of the courts and system integration in improving disposition reporting are included. Access full text at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/ichrbc05.htm>

### **AMBER Alert Best Practices Guide for Public Information Officers**

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention recently released this guide on best practices for law enforcement agents involved in the AMEBR alert system. Detailed information on how to choose a public information officer and his/her role, best structure the incident management system, organize media briefings, and control the spread of rumors is also included. Access full text at: <http://ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojjdp/212703.pdf>

### **Statistical Briefing Book**

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention has released the Statistical Briefing Book which provides timely and reliable statistical answers to the most frequently asked questions from policymakers, the media, and the general public. It has been designed to help users find basic statistical information on juvenile offending, victimization of juveniles, and involvement of youth in the juvenile justice system.

Access full text at: <http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/ojstatbb/>

### **Reducing Gun Violence: Community Problem Solving in Atlanta**

This is the fifth report in the National Institute of Justice's Reducing Gun Violence series. This report examines a program implemented during the late 1990s in Atlanta to reduce juvenile gun violence. The report describes the program's methods and lessons for other communities.

Access full text at: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/209800.pdf>

### **Principles of Drug Abuse Treatment for Criminal Justice Populations**

This recently released National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) publication provides judges and communities with research-based treatment solutions. Information on how the criminal justice system can help reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, and other common diseases among drug abusing offenders is also included.

Access full text at: [http://www.drugabuse.gov/PDF/PODAT\\_CJ/PODAT\\_CJ.pdf](http://www.drugabuse.gov/PDF/PODAT_CJ/PODAT_CJ.pdf)

## **Conferences and Trainings**

### **Managing Juvenile Services**

#### **Various dates and locations listed below**

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) is sponsoring the following training sessions on managing juvenile services:

- Spokane, WA, August 7-11, 2006
- Kansas City, MO, September 18-22, 2006
- Rochester, NY, October 23-27, 2006

This program will present management concepts to build leadership capacity and organizational competency in the planning and delivery of juvenile services. Tuition, student materials, instructional costs, and single-occupancy lodging will be provided by OJJDP. The participant is responsible for transportation, meals, and incidental expenses.

For more information: <http://dept.fvvc.edu/ojjdp/descriptions.htm#mjs>

### **Community Capacity Development Office Law Enforcement Conference**

#### **August 14-17, 2006 in Phoenix, AZ**

The Community Capacity Development Office (CCDO) is hosting a law enforcement conference that will focus on the latest technology trends in law enforcement to assist communities with preventing and controlling crime. Opportunities to develop partnerships and strengthen relationships among community leaders, faith-based organizations, and local law enforcement will be a focus of the event.

For more information: <http://www.ccdconferences.org/lawenforcement/index.htm>

### **From Truancy to Zero Tolerance: The Changing Border of Education and Juvenile Justice**

#### **August 23, 2006 in Washington, DC**

This event, hosted by the American Bar Association, will discuss legal issues associated with truancy and truancy prevention, special education, referrals of students to juvenile courts for school-based misbehavior, education of delinquent youth, and problems delinquent youth have in returning to school after placement. Substantive law and policy issues will be discussed and tips for practitioners will be provided.

For more information: <http://www.abanet.org/crimjust/juvjus/jjclcdc2006.doc>

**Technologies for Critical Incident Preparedness Conference: Prevention, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery**

**September 6-8, 2006 in Atlanta, GA**

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ), in association with CTC Inc.-Public Safety Technology Center, presents the 8th Annual Technologies for Critical Incident Preparedness Conference and Exposition.

This conference will highlight the technology and training tools currently available and being developed for the emergency responder community to deal with major threats to lives and property.

For more information: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/events/welcome.html#tcip>

**Law Enforcement Solutions for Reducing Racial Disparities & Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) in Juvenile Justice**

**September 7-10, 2006 in New Orleans, LA**

This Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) conference is designed to expand partnerships between state juvenile justice advisory groups, local juvenile justice practitioners and law enforcement officers, who jointly seek solutions to reduce racial disparities and disproportionately high rates of juvenile justice system contact for youth of color. Special attention will be given to the first points of contact that law enforcement officers have with at-risk and offending youth, exploring opportunities for positive outcomes and community partnerships. States' progress and challenges in addressing the federal core protection on DMC will be highlighted. If you are interested in attending this conference, please contact Elizabeth Spinney, Massachusetts DMC Reduction Specialist, 617-725-3367, [Elizabeth.Spinney@state.ma.us](mailto:Elizabeth.Spinney@state.ma.us).

For more information: [http://juvjustice.org/conferences/index\\_conference.html](http://juvjustice.org/conferences/index_conference.html)

**International Association of Crime Analysts 2006 Training Conference**

**September 11-14, 2006 in New Orleans, LA**

The 2006 International Association of Crime Analyst conference will feature four concurrent tracks: (1) Problem Analysis, (2) Tactical Analysis, (3) Technical Lab and (4) Special Topics. Session topics include effective crime prevention, crime forecasting, merging intelligence analysis with crime analysis, and communication with the public and each other. Participants include crime analysts, tactical analysts, intelligence analysts, administrative analysts, strategic analysts, research analysts, law enforcement officers and officials, GIS specialists, educators, and criminal justice students.

For more information: <http://www.iaca.net/Conference2006.asp>

**Providing Culturally Competent Services to Victims of Crime**

**September 12-14, 2006 in Chicago, IL**

The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) is offering seminars on the most effective strategies for providing culturally competent services to victims of crime. The training explores the challenges and advantages to providing culturally competent care for victims and how services can be more effective when they are delivered within the most relevant and meaningful cultural, gender-specific, and age-appropriate context.

For more information: <http://www.ovcttac.org/calendar/training.cfm>

### **Call for Papers to be Presented at the 9th Crime Mapping Research Conference (NIJ)**

**Application Deadline: September 29, 2006**

**Conference: March 28-31, 2007, in Pittsburgh, PA**

The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Crime Mapping Conference: Developing Methods for Research and Practice, presented by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), will focus on demonstrating the use and development of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and spatial data analysis techniques for practitioners and researchers. The NIJ is now accepting papers to be presented at the 9th Crime Mapping Research Conference. Presentations should address the innovative use of Geographic Information Systems in crime mapping and public safety for research, practical applications, evaluation, or theory testing. For more information: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/maps/conferences.html>

### **Justice Research and Statistics: Informing Effective Policy**

**October 12-13, 2006 in Denver, CO**

The annual Bureau of Justice Assistance/Justice Research and Statistics Association conference will focus on using data and statistics to inform effective policy. Session topics include identity theft, courts and sentencing, human trafficking, drugs, juvenile justice and domestic and sexual violence.

For more information: <http://www.jrsa.org/events/conference/index.html>

### **Moving Together, 2006**

**October 18, 2006 in Boston, MA**

Moving Together is being presented by the Baystate Roads Program and funded in part by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Federal Highway Administration. This event will join people from across the Commonwealth to work towards improving bicycle and walking conditions locally. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss shared experiences and strategies during various workshops on current issues and initiatives.

For more information: [http://www.ecs.umass.edu/baystate\\_roads//mt/index.html](http://www.ecs.umass.edu/baystate_roads//mt/index.html)

## **In The News**

### **Boston Debates Crime Prevention Programs**

***The Boston Globe*, July 7, 2006**

According to *The Boston Globe*, with the dramatic rise in shootings in Boston, the percentage of victims who are teenagers has surged. The Department of Public Health has reported that in the first four months of 2006, 45 percent of non fatal gunshot wound victims were under the age of 20 compared with 35 percent last year, 34 percent in 2004, and 20 percent in 2003. The dramatic increase has alarmed community leaders and public officials and sparked a debate over how to best combat the crime wave.

Access full text at: [http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2006/07/07/city\\_senses\\_urgency\\_on\\_youth\\_violence/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2006/07/07/city_senses_urgency_on_youth_violence/)



### **Weed and Seed Marks 1 Year**

***The Republican*, July 23, 2006**

According to *The Republican*, Holyoke city officials briefed a U.S. Department of Justice representative on the Weed and Seed program's success and gave her a tour of the area in order to mark the end of the first year of the city's federal funded program. Included in the Weed and Seed Program is a new jobs program, where five youth residents have been hired to help clean up the Lyman Terrace grounds, and a high school equivalency program, which is helping adults earn degrees.

Access full text at: <http://www.masslive.com/springfield/republican/index.ssf?/base/news-115355477496240.xml&coll=1>

### **Boston "Culture of Violence"**

***The Boston Globe*, July 26, 2006**

The number of youths 16 and younger arrested in drug cases jumped 42 percent from 2004 to 2005, reports *The Boston Globe*. In addition, the number of juveniles caught on weapons violations, including guns and knives, slightly more than doubled during this same time period. A special report on youth violence presented by members of the City Council in June indicated that even though the number of high-school-age kids in Boston this year reached its highest level in over a decade, since the early 2000's, the city has lost \$8.6 million in federal funding focused on preventing such young people from getting into trouble.

Access full text at: [http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2006/07/23/12\\_the\\_new\\_21/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2006/07/23/12_the_new_21/)

### **Violent Crime Rate Declines in Springfield**

***The Republican*, August 1, 2006**

According to *The Republican*, Springfield's latest crime report statistics show a decline in motor vehicle thefts, larcenies and violent crimes during the last six months, with assaults decreasing the most dramatically. However, murder, rape, robbery and burglary increased, with one more homicide, two more rapes, five more robberies, and nine more burglaries in the first six months of 2006 compared to the first six months of 2005.

Access full text at: <http://www.masslive.com/springfield/republican/index.ssf?/base/news-5/115441871713390.xml&coll=1>

## **Contact Information**

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